

SPRINGFIELD  
URBAN LEAGUE

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October 9, 1998

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable William Kennard  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M. Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

CC DOCKET NO. 98-141

Dear Chairman Kennard:

I am writing on behalf of the Illinois Association of Urban League Executives. I am representing eight Illinois cities to offer our strong support for the proposed Ameritech-SBC Communications merger. It is our understanding that the Federal Communication Commission is considering the merger under case "CC Docket #98-141." I have enclosed an Illinois Urban League Executive roster for your review.

The Illinois Council recently met with the Ameritech Illinois President, Doug Whitley and his staff to discuss the merger. As a result of the meeting I believe the merger will be in the best interest of Ameritech and its customers. With SBC's commitment to sustain a major local presence, the merger will also provide the opportunity to solidify Ameritech's standing as one of Illinois prominent employers, taxpayers and corporate citizens. Ameritech as a corporation and their employees have demonstrated broad-based community support through their corporate contribution and employees involvement. SBC has made a commitment to maintain that tradition.

A strong national and global player like the proposed merger will have the resources and expertise to best ensure that all telephone customers benefit from quality service, reasonable prices and ongoing technological advancements. The State of Illinois will maintain jurisdiction to enforce company commitments and state rules and regulations to deliver quality service at attractive rates to customers.

Your favorable consideration to the proposed merger will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

*Howard R. Veal, Sr.*

Howard R. Veal, Sr.  
President & CEO

cc: Commissioner Susan Ness  
Commissioner Michael Powell  
Commissioner Harold Furtchgott-Roth  
Commissioner Gloria Tristani  
Charles Fisher, Executive Director, Illinois Commerce Commission

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